

WHEREAS Durham prides itself on being the City of Medicine; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Institute of Medicine estimates that more than 18 percent of Durham County residents, or more than 48,000 people, are uninsured; and

WHEREAS, Duke University Hospital estimates that the cost of treating uninsured patients in 2012 exceeded \$40 million; and

WHEREAS, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act provides federal funding for states to expand Medicaid to all citizens earning less than 138 percent of the federal poverty level; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Department of Health & Human Services estimated that accepting Medicaid expansion would extend insurance coverage to more than 500,000 North Carolinians and save the state approximately \$65 million over ten years; and

WHEREAS, the private economic forecasting company Regional Economic Models, Inc. projects that expanding Medicaid would create more than 25,000 jobs by 2016; and

WHEREAS, the American Academy of Actuaries estimates that refusing Medicaid expansion will increase private insurance premiums by more than 2 percent; and

WHEREAS, tax firm Jackson Hewitt estimates that refusing Medicaid expansion will cost North Carolina employers between \$65 million and \$98 million in fees; and

WHEREAS, Durham thinks all residents should have access to quality, affordable health coverage;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DURHAM THAT:

- 1) The City Council urges the North Carolina General Assembly and the Governor to accept federal funds to expand Medicaid in North Carolina.
- 2) This resolution shall be effective on and after its passage, and shall be shared with the members of Durham's General Assembly delegation